

Message Text

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R 191730Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC HONO

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: APRIL 19 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

AP (TOKYO) REPORTED NINE-MEMBER US CODEL ARRIVED PEKING SATURDAY FOR WEEK-LONG VISIT, ATTENDED PANQUET GIVEN IN THEIR HONOR, WITH USLO'S THOMAS ALSO PRESENT (4/18.SUN, WP, WSTAR; CSM). NCNA SAID CODEL MET WITH HUA (WSJ), HAD FRIENDLY TALK WITH CIAO KUAN-HUA (WP).

PEKING RADIO INDICATED FRIDAY NIGHT THAT YEH CHIEN-YING NO LONGER HOLDS DEFENSE MINISTER POST; NO EXPLANATION GIVEN (WP). REPORTING YEH'S ATTENDANCE DIPLO RECEPTION, RADIO IDENTIFIED HIM AS PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN, MIL AFFAIRS COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMAN -- BUT OMMITED MENTION HIS TITLE AS DEFENSE MINISTER. REPORTS HAD CIRCULATED AMONG DIPLOMATS PEKING FOR WEEKS THAT YEH HAD RESIGNED DEFENSE UNCLASSIFIED

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POST IN PROTEST OVER ANTI-TENG CAMPAIGN (4/18 NYT, SUN,

WSTAR).

PRC FORMINISTRY CONFIRMS PEKING HAS AGREED SEND AMB TO INDIA AFTER ITS APPROVAL INDIAN AMB ARRIVING PRC (WP 4/18).

CAIRO ANNOUNCED SATURDAY DEPARTURE OF HIGH-LEVEL DEL FOR PRC; INCLUDES STATE MINISTER FOR WAR PRODUCTION, INDICATING ARMS SUPPLIES WILL FIGURE IN TALKS (AP, SUN 4/18). PEKING GREETS ARRIVING EGYPTIAN VP WITH POMP/ CEREMONY GIVEN CHIEF OF STATE, HERALDING NEW PHASE IN CAIRO-PEKING RELS. ACCORDING EGYPTIAN NEWS AGENCY, MUBARAK ARRIVING PEKING SEEKING FINANCIAL AID, TRADE AGREEMENT -- AND MIL COOPERATION ALSO EXPECTED BE DISCUSSED (REUTER, CSM). HUA OPENED TALKS WITH MUBARAK MONDAY (REUTER HK).

PARADE (WP 4/18) REPORTS WHEN NIXONS VISITED PRC FEW MONTHS AGO, TOOK SUCH GIFTS TO CHINESE AS BOOKS ON US BICENTENNIAL, NUMBER OF PORCELAIN PIECES FROM EDWARD MARSHALL BOEHM STUDIO. IN RETURN, CHINESE GAVE NIXONS 90-PIECE TEA SET OF FINEST PORCELAIN, EXQUISITE VASES, BROCADES, TABLECLOTHS, SANDALWOOD FANS, IVORY LETTER-OPENERS, OTHER OBJECTS. NIXONS RECEIVED SETS OF GIFTS IN PEKING, KWEILIN, CANTON. ARTICLE HAS PHOTOS OF GIFTS.

2. INDOCHINA

IN APPEARANCE BEFORE SAC SUBCMTE WEDS, SECSTATE SAID US CANNOT ACCEPT HANOI'S DEMAND THAT WE HAVE OBLIGATION GIVE AID. ASSERTED NVN TAKEOVER SVN HAD COMPLETELY BROKEN PARIS AGREEMENT, BUT ADDED US PREPARED DISCUSS HANOI'S CONCERNS IN REASONABLE SPIRIT (NYT SPECIAL 4/17). NVN CHARGES SECSTATE "IRRESPONSIBLY" MISINTERPRETED RECENT US-DRV EXCHANGE NOTES BY SUGGESTING IN SENATE TESTIMONY THAT PROGRESS BEING MADE TOWARD NORMALIZATION RELS. "NHAN DAN" ADDS FORD ADMIN TAKES ADVANTAGE RECENT EXCHANGE, GIVES FALSE INTERPRETATION DUE PRES ELECTION YR. REITERATES RELS WILL IMPROVE ONLY WHEN US AGREES PROVIDE AID (NYT SPECIAL 4/17). UNCLASSIFIED

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NVN FONMIN TRINH ARRIVED STOCKHOLM MONDAY FOR 4-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT; CONSIDERED EXPRESSION NVN THANKS FOR SWEDISH POL SUPPORT DURING WAR (REUTER STOCKHOLM).

SAIGON AFP BUREAU WILL CEASE OPNS MAY 8 DUE DECISION VN AUTHORITIES CONCENTRATE FOREIGN REPORTERS IN HANOI (AFP, NYT). MOVE FOLLOWS NEW POLICY DESIGNATING

HANOI POLITICAL CAPITAL (WP 4/18).

CHITRIP CARRIES 2 FRONT-PAGE PIX, FULL BACK PAGE OF PIX, ON SVN 1 YR AFTER CONQUEST. YATES, AT TOKYO, REVIEWS EVENTS OF YR, SAYS 2 PICTURE- EMERGE: 1

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PRESENTED BY WELL-SCREENED, PROPERLY-AWED JOURNALISTS WHO SAY EVERYTHING FINE, ECON SYSTEM BEING CHANGED TO FIT NEEDS, RE-EDUCATED MIL OFFICERS LEARN EVIL OF OLD WAYS; OTHER VIEW COMES FROM PEOPLE THEMSELVES VIA SMUGGLED LETTERS, TELLS OF DISCONTENT, RESISTANCE TO CONQUERORS, RAMPANT UNEMPLOYMENT, DISILLUSION. QUOTES FOREIGN VISITORS THAT SVIETS BEAR AMERICANS NO HARD FEELINGS; FRENCH ENGINEER THAT MANY RUMORS IN SAIGON THAT AMERICANS WILL RETURN, AS MACARTHUR DID IN PHILS. (PHOTOS BY MARC RIBOUD).

IN THANH MY VN OVER 1000 "VOLUNTEERS" INCLUDING MONKS, INTELLECTUALS, BUSINESSMEN, DIG IRRIGATION CANAL (REUTER, WP).

KHIEU SAMPHAN CELEBRATES 1ST ANNIVERSARY COMMUNIST VICTORY BY ATTACKING US FOR SPREADING PROPAGANDA AGAINST NEW GOVT. PAYS TRIBUTE TO MILLION KILLED DURING WAR (REUTER, NYT 4/18; WP 4/18).

US CODEL VISITING PRC SAYS INTEND REQUE;T HELP FROM CAMBODIAN DIPLOMATS IN ACCOUNTING FOR MIAS IN CAMBODIA (AP, WSTAR 4/18).

PEOPLE'S CO'R'T VIENTIANE SENTENCES 6 TO DEATH FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES (WP 4/18), INCLUDING FORMER ARMY GENL. THREE SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA. BELIEVED SOME SENTENCED WERE CHARGED WITH PARTICIPATING IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES (WSTAR 4/18).

3. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

FISHING BOAT WITH 31 SVIET REFUGEES ARRIVES THAILAND AFTER WK AT SEA (UPI, NYDN). REFUGEES SAY ANOTHER BOAT SUNK BY CAMBODIAN NAVY SHIPS DURING VOYAGE (WP 4/18).

SKIPPER US MERCHANT SHIP RECALLS PICKING UP 5500 REFUGEES FROM DA NANG DURING CHAOS OF YR AGO. SHIP EVENTUALLY CARRIED 34,000 OF 150,000 REFUGEES EVACUATED

(HELEWICZ, SUN).

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4. KOREA

HARMING SK IMAGE IN US, GIVING NK PROPAGANDA MATERIAL,
UNDERMINING US-ROK ALLIANCE; BUT, SO FAR, NO GENERAL
ANTI-US OUTBURSTS, RALLIES OF KIND THAT OFTEN ACCOMPANY
SK DISPUTES WITH JAPAN.

LDP FRIDAY FILED LIBEL SUIT AGAINST JCP DAILY
"AKAHATA", FOR ALLEGING 28 LDP DIETMEN TOOK LOCKHEED
Bribes. SUIT CHARGED PAPER "WENT BEYOND THE BOUNDS
OF NEWSPAPER REPORTING." EDITOR TADAO NIRASAWA SAID
"AKAHATA" PREPARED DEFEND SELF AGAINST "UNREASONABLE"
SUIT (WP; AP, SUN 4/18, WSTAR 4/18).

CULLISON (JOC) NOTES US, JAPAN AGREED HOLD SECOND-ROUND
SPECIALTY STEEL TALKS END APRIL, EITHER TOKYO OR
WASHINGTON. SAYS JAPANESE OPPOSE US-PROPOSED OMA;
NOT CONVINCED US INTENDS FULFILL GATT REQUIREMENTS.
REFUSED ACCEPT US DATA THAT SHOWED IMPORTS ALMOST
LEVELED OFF LAST YEAR, EXCEPT FOR 30 PCT INCREASE FROM
JAPAN, TO 78,000 TONS.

CULLISON ALSO NOTES DOCKWORKERS ENDED WALKOUT FRIDAY,
AFTER MANAGEMENT OFFERED RAISE PEHSIONS FROM 23 TO
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27 DOLS/MO. OFFER UNDER STUDY. PICKETING CONTINUES
YOKOHAMA, OSAKA CONTAINER PIERS. SAYS JAPAN SEAMEN'S
UNION READY STRIKE APRIL 22, IN S'PPORT DEMANDS FOR
17.8 PCT WAGE INCREASE. BARGAINING BROKE DOWN WHEN
OWNERS OFFERED 40 DOLS/MO.

WSJ CITES MOF FRIDAY REPORTED 660 MILLION DOL MARCH
BOP SURPLUS. LED BY STRONG TRADE PERFORMANCE. DOL
DOWN SLIGHTLY IN FOREX MART, TO 299.20 YEN. MITSUBISHI
MOTOR CO ANNOUNCED PLANS INVEST 57.8 MILLION DOLS TO
INCREASE AUTO CAPACITY 25 PCT. EXPECTS COMPLETE NEW
PLANT AT OKAZAKI, BY AUGUST 1977 (WSJ, TOKYO).

6. THAILAND

NEW PARLIAMENT OPENS IN ATMOSPHERE CELEBRATION,
CONCILIATION, OPTIMISM. PM SENI HEADS COALITION
WITH 206 OUT OF 279 SEATS, WORKS OUT DISTRIBUTION
CABINET POSTS AMONG PARTIES (AP, NYT 4/17). PARLIAMENT
CONFIRMS NEW CABINET HEADED BY SENI (WP 4/18; UPI, NYT
4/18). SENI SAYS NEW GOVT WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES
WITH US, BUT WON'T REVERSE PREVIOUS GOVT'S ORDER FOR

US TROOPS DEPART (WSJ; AP, WP). NEW GOVT IS SLIGHTLY
RIGHTIST COALITION (WP 4/18). SENI SAYS US WITHDRAWAL
SEEMS SUIT TREND OF TIMES, ADDS DOESN'T THINK OTHER
POWER WILL FILL VACU-M LEFT (AP, NYDN). SENI'S DECISION
FOLLOW KUKRIT'S WITHDRAWAL POLICY REPRESENTS VICTORY
CIVILIAN AUTHORITY OVER THAI MIL, WHO WANTED KEEP US
TROOPS THERE; ALSO REDUCES TENSIONS RESULTING FROM
DEMANDS BY STUDENTS, LEFT-WING GROHPS (AP S'N, GLOBE).

US ACCELERATESWITHDRAWAL (WP '18); ANNOUNCES UTAPAO
WILL CLOSE JUNE 20 (AP UTAPAO).

TERRORISTS STIR S THAI BORDER, WITH 1000 MOSLEM
SEPARATISTS SEEKING AUTONOMY, THOUSANDS MOSLEM BANDITS
PREYING ON VILLAGERS, ABOUT 3500 COMMUNIST THAI,
CHINESE-MALAY INSURGENTS TRYING WIN LOYALTY OF PEOPLE.
FOR FIRST TIME IN 2 YRS, RTG SENDS TROOPS, POLICE INTO
AREA IN EFFORT ROOT OUT LAWLESS ELEMENTS. AREA HAS 7
MILLION PEOPLE, MANY SEEK ARMS PROTECT SELVES; TEACHERS
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REFUSE GO TO CLASSROOMS 'NTIL GOVT PROVIDES ARMED ESCORT
(AP, NYT).

7. AUSTRALIA

US FIRM, AMAX INC, CONFIRMS CONTRIBUTION OF 16,061 DOLS
TO UNNAMED AUSSIE POLITICAL PARTIES 1972-1975. SAYS
WAS LEGAL (WP 4/17).

8. MALAYSIA

TAN SRI ZAITON IBRAHIM BIN AHHAD NAMED PERM REP TO
UN MONDAY. ZAIN AZRAAI NAMED AMB TO US (REUTER KL).

9. INDONESIA/TIMOR

FM MALIK SAID SATURDAY 300 INDO TROOPS WITHDRAWN FROM E
TIMOR, "BECAUSE PEACE RESTORED." DID NOT SAY IF OTHERS
STILL THERE. SAID FORMER PORTUGESE COLONY NOW
CONTROLLED BY PRO-INDO PROVISIONAL GOVT OF E TIMOR
(REUTER, NYT).

10. PHILIPPINES

AID SAYS NEW METHOD REDUCE LOSS OF RICE CROP TO RATS
PROVED SUCCESS, IN PHILS. INVOLVES SLOW-ACTING
RODENTICIDE, DEVELOPED IN 8-YR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.
HELPS PHIL FARMERS INCREASE YIELDS UP TO 50 PCT,
TRIPLE PROFITS. COULD SAVE MUCH OF ESTIMATED TOTAL

48 MILLION TONS RICE LOST TO RATS EACH YEAR, WORLD-WIDE
(AP, NYT 4/18).

11. GENERAL

PRES FORD DECIDED FRIDAY NOT RAISE TARIFF, OR OTHERWISE
RESTRICT SHOE IMPORTS, AS RECOMMENDED BY ITC. A00UT
40 PCT SHOES SOLD US IMPORTED, MOSTLY FROM TAIWAN,
SK, ITALY, SPAIN, BRAZIL. VOLUME LAST YEAR 1.1 BILLION
DOLS. PRES SAID BASED DECISION ON "EVALUATION OF THE
NATIONAL INTEREST," INCLUDING LIKELIHOOD HIGHER CONSUMER
PRICES (DALE, NYT; LEVINE, WSJ).

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12. N MARIANAS

ERWIN D. CANHAM, CSM EDITOR-EMERITUS, SWORN IN FRIDAY
AS RESIDENT COMMISSIONER N MARIANAS. WILL AID
TRANSITION TO COMMONWEALTH AFFILIATION ISLANDERS
APPROVED BY 78 PCT VOTE LAST JUNE (CSM, WASHINGTON).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

13. CHINA

NYT'S RESTON (4/18) SAYS AS FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN
WASHINGTON SPECULATE ABOUT US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION,
DOS LIKEWISE ENGAGED IN OWN GUESSING GAME ABOUT
FUTURE POLITICS/LEADERSHIP OF JAPAN, ITALY, SOVIET --
BUT PARTICULARLY ABOUT PRC. CONTENDS HAK FOLLOWS
LATEST PEKING COMMOTION WITH CLOSEST ATTENTION, ALSO
WITH SOME ANXIETY, SINCE HAS NEVER MET HUA, AND HAK
WONDERS IF TENG'S DISMISSAL INDICATES SOME LOOSENING
FRAGILE SINO-US TIES. RESTON SAYS WHEN CHOU ENTERED
UPON FATAL ILLNESS, IT WAS TENG WHO MADE SPECIAL US
JOURNEY TO ASSURE HAK PEKING WOULD CONTINUE FOLLOW
CHOU POLICY OF MODERATION, IMPLIED COOPERATION WITH US.
ADDS THAT DURING HAK'S LAST PRC VISTT, WAS ASSURED
ON HIGHEST AUTHORITY THAT TENG WOULD BE KEPT ON --
BUT EVEN BRUCE/BUSH HAVEN'T CLUE TO WHAT IT ALL
MEANS.

PUTTERFIELD (NYT-4/18), IN HK, CITES REPORTS THAT
YEH CHIEN-YING LEFT PEKING IN ANGER AFTER RESIGNING
AS DEFENSE MINISTER, RETURNED KWANTUNG PROVINCE HOME.
WAS REPORTEDLY ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL SENIOR PARTY LEADERS
WHO OPPOSED MAO DECISION TO ATTACK TENG. ALSO NOTES
REPORTS YEH RESIGNED DUE TO BAD HEALTH. WHILE NO
OFFICIAL WORD ON REPLACEMENT, SAYS THERE HAVE BEEN

REPORTS SINCE FEB THAT PEKING MIL REGION COMMANDER CHEN HSI-LIEN, FORMER CLOSE TENG ASSOCIATE, HAS TAKEN OVER AS DEFENSE MINISTER. YEH STORY APPEARS ONE OF

FIRST OFFICIAL CONFIRMATIONS OF CHINESE PRESS ARTICLES
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THAT TENG CONTROVERSY HAD "SPLIT" PARTY'S CENTRAL CMTE. BUT YEH EVIDENTLY REMAINS PARTY POWER, SINCE PEKING BROADCAST SAID HE IS STILL DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF PARTY AND OF MIL AFFAIRS COMMISSION. SO, YEH'S DEPARTURE FROM DEFENSE POST MAY NOT MEAN MODERATES HAVE SUFFERED LOSS OF POWER; ALSO, CHEN HSI-LIEN IS ALLIED WITH MODERATES.

SFCHRON (4/9) CONCLUDES FROM TENG DISMISSAL "THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DISAGREEMENT" IN PRC, AND "RADICALS HAVE WON THIS SKIRMISH, ALTHOUGH NOT CONVINCINGLY." SAYS PEKING POLITICAL CRISIS SHOULD GIVE SPIRITUAL IF NOT POLITICAL HOPE TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE NO POLITICAL SYSTEM CAN SHUT DISSENT DOWN FOR LONG.

NYT (4/18) SAYS NEW POSSIBILITY SINO-INDIAN RAPPROACHEMENT REQUIRES STUDY TWO MAJOR HYPOTHESES: PERHAPS POST-CHOU REGIME HAS CONCLUDED BEST TO MEND FENCES WITH SOVIET, IS USING INDIA APPROACH AS INITIAL PROBE. IF CORRECT, THIS RAISES POSSIBILITY SINO-SOVIET THAW AROUND CORNER. CONVERSELY, VERY DIFFERENT REALITY MAY BE THAT GANDHI FEELS STRONG ENOUGH NOW TO SHOW MORE INDEPENDENCE OF SOVIET, THAT HER HOPE IS TO PLAY SOVIET/CHINESE OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER FOR INDIA'S BENEFIT. SAYS MERELY TO STATE SUCH POSSIBILITIES IS TO INDICATE RADICAL POTENTIALITIES, FOR WORLD BALANCE AS WHOLE, ARISING FROM SINO-INDIAN DECISION TO EXCHANGE ENVOYS.

RECENTLY RETURNED FROM 17-DAY PRC VISIT WITH CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL VISITORS CENTER, RM PRESS (CSM) RECALLS CHINESE EFFORTS TO "CONTROL" CITY POPULATIONS, USING SUCH TECHNIQUES AS: REQUIRING GOVT OK TO CHANGE RESIDENCE; ENCOURAGING 0IRTH CONTROL, INCLUDING ABORTIONS AND LATE MARRIAGES; BUILDING OR RELOCATING MANY FACTORIES BETWEEN MAJOR CITIES; GOVT DECISION ON STUDENTS' CAREERS, PLACES OF WORK. SAYS RES'LTS OF ALL THIS MIXED: THOUGH ONE OFTEN SEES BLACK CLOUDS BELCHING FROM CITY FACTORY SMOKESTACKS, MOST BACK STREETS/ALLEYS USUALLY LITTER-FREE.

14. JAPAN
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NYT'S HALLORAN SEES DEEPENING "PERVASIVE DISTRUST" OF POLITICIANS AS MOST EVIDENT LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCE OF LOCKHEED SCANDAL. SPECIFICALLY, NOTES MIKI HOLD ON OFFICE WEAKENED TO POINT HAS CONSIDERED SPLITTING LDP, FORMING COALITION ELEMENTS OF LEFTIST OPPOSITION. CHANCES LDP CAN WIN ELECTION THIS YEAR "WANE EACH DAY." DIET PARALYSIS DELAYS VOTES ON 12.5 BILLION DOL BOND ISSUE, 17 BILLION DOL BILL REFUND NEEDED TAX REVENUES TO LOCAL GOVTs. CHOICE OF NEW ASW PLANE PUT OFF, DEFENSE FORCE MORALE DAMPENED. DIPLOMACY HAMPERED BY INABILITY DIET RATIFY NPT, CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY WITH ROK. QUOTES JUDGEMENT OF LDP MAINSTREAM POLITICIAN THAT LOCKHEED AFFAIR TOLD JAPANESE "THEIR DEEP DISTRUST OF POLITICS WAS RIGHT."

AP'S NAOKI USUI (GLOBE 4/18) REVIEWS POPULAR REACTION AGAINST MARUBENI EMPLOYEES, EVEN THEIR CHILDREN AT SCHOOL, BECAUSE OF LOCKHEED ROLE.

CHITRIB'S YATES, IN TOKYO, SAYS MOST POPULAR PASTIME THIS SPRING IS "NOVEL GUESSING GAME" -- WHICH GOJ OFFICIAL TOOK LOCKHEED BRIBES. SO FAR, WINNERS CANNOT BE DETERMINED, SINCE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW FOR SURE ARE THOSE WHO TOOK PRIBES, AND THEY NOT TALKING. NOTES TOKYO SHIMBUN GOT INTO GAME BY LISTING 173 OFFICIALS WHO TOOK PAYMENTS; KANSAI SHIMBUN LISTED 20 PAST, PRESENT OFFICIALS; JSP PAPER LISTED 115, SOLD 450,000 COPIES AND FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY HAD TO ORDER SECOND PRESS RUN; NEW TABLOID, "WEEKLY PEANT", NAMED 39; JCP LISTED 28 SUSPECTS, PRINTED BIOS.

CONSENSUS GUESSES INCLUDE OHIRA, NAKASONE, KISHI, SHIINA, TANAKA, FUKUDA, YAMANAKA. SOME EVEN LIST MIKI. NOTES ASHAI COMPLAINED, "THIS IS ALL GETTING OUT OF HAND," RECOMMENDED ONLY WAY "STOP NONSENSE" IS FOR GOJ RELEASE NAMES OF BRIBETAKERS.

YATES ALSO DESCRIBES HOW JAPANESE DEPARTMENT STORES, HOTELS, PUBLISHERS, EVEN NIGHTCLUBS GEARING UP TO CELEBRATE US BICENTENNIAL. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL PLANS UNCLASSIFIED

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PARTY, WITH ALL "COLONIAL FOOD" ONE CAN EAT, DANCE MUSIC BY US ARMY AND USMC BANDS IN "CONCORD BALLROOM."

15. ASEAN/INDOCHINA

GLOBE'S SNOW (4/18) STARTS SERIES ON ASIA, 1 YR AFTER
INDOCHINESE WAR, WITH REVIEW ASEAN SUMMIT ON BALI THAT
WAS DIRECT RESULT COMMUNIST VICTORIES. FINDS SEA
STILL TENSE AS BOTH COMMUNIST, NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES
ACT AS IF ON SHAKEDOWN CRUISE. NOTES COMMUNIST
GOVTs OF INDOCHINA CONSOLIDATE INTERNAL CONTROL,
EXPERIENCE SERIOUS POST-WAR ECON LETDOWNS, WITH SIGNS
STRIFE, ESPECIALLY ON VIET-KHMER BORDER. POINTS OUT
IN EXTERNAL POLITICS, NVN DISPLAYS CONTINUED RANCOR

TOWARD NEIGHBORS, ESPECIALLY THAILAND. ATTRIBUTED
CONSOLIDATION ASEAN TO THIS FACT MORE THAN ANYTHING
ELSE, MAKES IT LOOK TO US, PRC FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL
SUCCOR, SUPPORT. QUOTES MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S
WOOLLACOTT THAT PICTURE EMERGING IS OF SINO-US CAMP
ON ONE HAND, VN-USSR CAMP ON OTHER. SNOW OBSERVES
HANOI-MOSCOW TRUCULENCE ABOUT ASEAN HAS RS
PROMPTED MAINLY IRRITATION AMONG PARTIES DIRECTLY
INVOLVED.

16. THAILAND

GLOBE'S SNOW (4/18) SEES RTG AS CLASSIC CASE
INSTABILITY, WITH BUDDHISM, MONARCHY, CULTURE TENDING
HOLD TOGETHER, BUT SOCIAL INJUSTICE, UNSTEADY CIVILIAN
GOVT, IRRESPONSIBLE STUDENTS HAVING DESTABILIZING
EFFECT. NOTES COMMUNIST VICTORIES HAD GREATEST
PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT HERE, AS RTG MADE MOST DRAMATIC,
VISIBLE ADJUSTMENTS TO OUTCOME -- INCLUDING US
WITHDRAWAL, THAT IS GESTURE APPEASEMENT TO NVN, HASTENED
BY "MAYAGUEZ" AFFAIR. BELIEVES "WEANING" PROCESS MAY
BE PAINFUL FOR THAILAND, SINCE LEFT WITH PERSISTENT
INSURGENCY IN NE, SOUTH, WITH DIMINISHING POOL US
EQUIPMENT, AID. OPINES UNCERTAINTIES COMPOUND BY
STUTTERING ECONOMY, FACTIONAL FIGHTING BETWEEN
CHINESE BUSINESSMEN, INDOCHINESE REFUGEE QUESTION.
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SF CHRON'S WEBER (4/10) AT CHING (SIC) MAI IN EMOTIONAL
PIECE SAYS THAI LOVE AFFAIR WITH US "KAPUT," COUNTRY
DRENCHED IN ANTI-US HYSTERIA. REVIEWS HISTORY
RECENT US PRESENCE IN TERMS SEDUCTION THAI "STREET,
BLUS'ING LASS" WHO HAD LIVED LIFE NATL CHASTITY,
RECLUSION. STATES COST TO US TAXPAYER WAS 12
BILLION DOLS; COST TO THAILAND WAS "TOTAL NATIONAL
DISASTER," WITH TRAGEDY JUST BEGINNING. QUOTES
PREDICTION SENI'S GOVT WILL FALL WITHIN 6 MOS, REPLACED

BY MIL DISCATORSHIP. WRITES OF FEAR, ANGER, CONFUSION
AMONG FARMERS, STUDENTS, JOURNALISTS, POLITICIANS;
QUOTES SOCIAL WORKER THAT LIE GIS LEFT ONLY 3200
CHILDREN BEHIND, TRUE FIGURE NEARER 16,000.

17. PHILIPPINES

PARADE MAGAZINE (WP 4/18) NOTES MARCOS' DAUGHTER "IMEE",
AT PRINCETON IS PROTECTED BY FOUR TO SIX BODYGUARDS
WHENEVER SHE GOES NIGHTCLUBPING IN NY.

18. GENERAL

REVIEWING "ISSUES 1976", WP'S GEORGE WILSON (4/18)
NOTES CARTER CALL FOR "LEANER" US MIL ESTABLISHMENT
WORLDWIDE, REMOVAL ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM SKWX
NOW, AND ALL TROOPS OVER FIVE YEARS, WITH PLEDGE
"TOTAL COMMITMENT" TO JAPAN. UDALL ALSO TALKING
ABOUT REMOVING ALL NUKE'S FROM SK.
ROBINSON

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